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M DIRECTOR.

FBI
O RUEBWJA/ATTORNEY GENERAL
UEHC/SECRETARY OF STATE
UEAIIA/DIRECTOR, CIA

~~SECRET~~

VENEZUELAN PROTEST REGARDING ALLEGED FBI INFORMATION WHICH
APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES ON OCTOBER 24, 1976.

AN ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES ON OCTOBER 24,
1976, ENTITLED "SOME EXILES ARE STILL AT WAR WITH CASTRO," BY
DAVID BINDER. INCLUDED IN THIS ARTICLE IS THE FOLLOWING
PARAGRAPH:

"MR. BOSCH, THEY REPORTED, WAS WELCOMED LATE LAST MONTH
IN CARACAS BY CUBAN EXILES AND OFFICIALS OF THE PEREZ GOVERN-
MENT AT A \$1,000-A-PLATE DINNER IN THE HOME OF A PHYSICIAN,
DR. ILDO FOLGAR. ACCORDING TO A FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REPORT, MR. BOSCH ALSO MET WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ."

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ON OCTOBER 26, 1976, THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA
WAS SUMMONED BY THE VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER WHO EXPRESSED
TO HIM THE CONCERN AND ANGER OF VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS
ANDRES PEREZ ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE ARTICLE. THE
FOREIGN MINISTER STATED THAT HIS PRESIDENT WAS VERY UPSET BY
THE ALLEGATION AND WANTED TO KNOW IF LEGAL ATTACHE JOSEPH S. LEO
WAS THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION IN THE PARAGRAPH INDICATING
THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD MET WITH DR. ORLANDO BOSCH AVILA. IT
SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BOSCH IS WANTED AS A FUGITIVE BY THE FBI FOR
VIOLATION. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED OF TERRORIST
ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA AND IS
SUSPECTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE RECENT CRASH OF A CUBAN AIR-
PLANE AND OF THE ASSASSINATION BY BOMBING OF AN EXILED CHILEAN
OFFICIAL IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

SUSPECTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE RECENT CRASH OF A CUBAN AIR-
LINER AND OF THE ASSASSINATION BY BOMBING OF AN EXILED CHILEAN
OFFICIAL IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

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THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ADVISED THE FOREIGN MINISTER
THAT HE COULD ASSURE PRESIDENT PEREZ THAT THIS INFORMATION
WAS NOT DEVELOPED OR REPORTED BY THE LEGAT. THE FOREIGN
MINISTER INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT NEVERTHELESS IT WAS
CONSIDERED TO BE A SERIOUS MATTER WHEN AN OFFICIAL OF A
U. S. GOVERNMENT AGENCY SUCH AS THE FBI IS QUOTED AS THE
SOURCE OF INFORMATION PUBLISHED BY A NEWSPAPER AND HE ASKED
THAT AN INQUIRY BE MADE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO CLARIFY THIS
SITUATION.

THE FBI REQUESTS THAT AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA
CONTACT THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF VENEZUELA AND ADVISE HIM THAT
THE ABOVE REFERRED TO INFORMATION WAS NOT DEVELOPED OR REPORTED
BY THE LEGAT OR ANY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF IN CARACAS, THAT IT
WAS NOT DEVELOPED OR REPORTED BY ANY SOURCE OR INVESTIGATIVE
ACTIVITY OF THE FBI AND THAT IT WAS NOT RELEASED BY THE FBI TO
THE NEW YORK TIMES OR TO ANY OTHER NEWSPAPER. THE FBI SHARES
THE CONCERN OF THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA CONCERNING THIS
ARTICLE AND WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE FBI HAS NO CONTROL
OR INFLUENCE OVER INFORMATION REPORTED BY THE AMERICAN PRESS.
IF THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA SO DESIRES, THE FBI IS WILLING

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TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FBI DID NOT
DEVELOP OR REPORT THE INFORMATION REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE
PARAGRAPH AND IS, THEREFORE, NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON
ITS VERACITY.

CLASSIFIED BY 2996, XGDS 2, INDEFINITE.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
OCT 29 1976 J. J.	
G.R.O.M.	
ATTORNEY GENERAL	CRIMINAL DIV.
Int. Sec. Section	